

What is claimed is:

1. A platform-independent method for retrieving and managing data in at least one communications network having a plurality of destination nodes interconnected with communication lines, comprising:

5               remotely accessing a communications network;  
  
              remotely configuring a retrieval command associated with a destination  
node;  
  
              remotely transmitting said retrieval command to said destination node;  
              remotely monitoring said retrieval command associated with said  
10       destination node;  
  
              remotely transmitting a response from said destination node to said  
retrieval command;  
  
              remotely monitoring said response from said destination node to said  
retrieval command; and  
15               remotely storing said response from said destination node to said retrieval  
command.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

              remotely prioritizing said retrieval command associated with said  
destination node; and  
20               remotely prioritizing said response from said destination node to said  
retrieval command.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said monitoring of said response further

comprises a retrieval status.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said retrieval status comprises at least one of the following parameters:

never attempted;

5 successful;

not available;

date out of range;

failed; and

in progress.

10 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

remotely executing an automated retrieval schedule.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said automated retrieval schedule comprises at least one of the following parameters:

an upload frequency;

15 an upload schedule; and

a destination directory.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

remotely constructing a response log;

remotely administering said response log; and

20 remotely printing said response log.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command comprises at least one of the following parameters:

minimum time to retry if retrieval failure; and

maximum number of simultaneous retrievals.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command further comprises node filtering.

5 10. The method of claim 9, wherein said node filtering comprises at least one of the following parameters:

one or more of said destination nodes designated by a user;

one or more of said destination nodes affiliated with a particular business;

and

10 one or more of said destination nodes affiliated with a particular business branch.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command further comprises identification of at least one of said destination nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

15 at least one selected day;

at least one selected hour;

at least one selected said destination node;

at least one missed day;

at least one missed hour;

20 at least one disconnected destination node;

at least one down destination node; and

at least one exception-reported destination node.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command further comprises identification of at least one of said destination nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

file type;

file type name; and

archive directory.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node further comprises a plurality of delivery system nodes.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node further comprise a plurality of secondary system nodes.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node is an automated teller machine.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node is a bank server.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node is a communication server.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination node is a financial server.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network is a financial institution's communications network.

20. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

remotely providing a help mechanism to a user.

21. A platform-independent system for retrieving and managing data in at least one communications network having a plurality of destination nodes interconnected with communication lines, comprising:

means for remotely accessing a communications network;

means for remotely configuring a retrieval command associated with a  
destination node;

means for remotely transmitting said retrieval command to said destination  
node;

means for remotely monitoring said retrieval command associated with said  
destination node;

means for remotely transmitting a response from said destination node to  
said retrieval command;

means for remotely monitoring said response from said destination node to  
said retrieval command; and

means for remotely storing said response from said destination node to said  
retrieval command.

22. The system of claim 21, further comprising:

means for remotely prioritizing said retrieval command associated with said  
destination node; and

means for remotely prioritizing said response from said destination node to  
said retrieval command.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein said monitoring of said response further  
comprises a retrieval status.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said retrieval status comprises at least one of the  
following parameters:

never attempted;  
successful;  
not available;  
date out of range;  
5 failed; and  
in progress.

25. The system of claim 21, further comprising:

means for remotely executing an automated retrieval schedule.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein said automated retrieval schedule comprises at  
10 least one of the following parameters:

an upload frequency;  
an upload schedule; and  
a destination directory.

27. The system of claim 21, further comprising:

15 means for remotely constructing a response log;  
means for remotely administering said response log; and  
means for remotely printing said response log.

28. The system of claim 21, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command  
comprises at least one of the following parameters:

20 minimum time to retry if retrieval failure; and  
maximum number of simultaneous retrievals.

29. The system of claim 8, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command

further comprises node filtering.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein said node filtering comprises at least one of the following parameters:

one or more of said destination nodes designated by a user;

5 one or more of said destination nodes affiliated with a particular business;

and

one or more of said destination nodes affiliated with a particular business branch.

31. The system of claim 28, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command  
10 further comprises identification of at least one of said destination nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

at least one selected day;

at least one selected hour;

at least one selected said destination node;

15 at least one missed day;

at least one missed hour;

at least one disconnected destination node;

at least one down destination node; and

at least one exception-reported destination node.

20 32. The system of claim 21, wherein said configuration of said retrieval command further comprises identification of at least one of said destination nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

file type;  
file type name; and  
archive directory.

33. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node further comprises a  
5 plurality of delivery system nodes.

34. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node further comprise a plurality  
of secondary system nodes.

35. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node is an automated teller  
machine.

10 36. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node is a bank server.

37. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node is a communication server.

38. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination node is a financial server.

39. The system of claim 21, wherein said communications network is a financial  
institution's communications network.

15 40. The system of claim 21, further comprising:  
means for remotely providing a help mechanism to a user.

41. A method for selecting, prioritizing, retrieving, storing, and managing data within  
network nodes, comprising:

configuring a request from a user to a network node;  
20 transmitting said request to said network node;  
processing said request associated with said network node;  
transmitting a response from said network node to said request;



processing said response from said network node to said request; and  
storing said response from said network node to said request.

42. The method of claim 41, further comprising:

constructing a response log;

5 administering said response log; and

printing said response log.

43. The method of claim 41, further comprising:

prioritizing said request associated with said network node; and

prioritizing said response from said network node to said request.

10 44. The method of claim 41, further comprising:

constructing an automated retrieval schedule; and

executing said automated retrieval schedule.

45. The method of claim 44, wherein said automated retrieval schedule comprises at least one of the following parameters:

15 an upload frequency;

an upload schedule; and

a destination directory.

46. The method of claim 41, wherein said configuration of said request comprises at least one of the following parameters:

20 minimum time to retry if retrieval failure; and

maximum number of simultaneous retrievals.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein said configuration of said request further

comprises node filtering.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein said node filtering further comprises at least one of the following parameters:

one or more of said network nodes designated by a user;

5 one or more of said network nodes affiliated with a particular business; and

one or more of said network nodes affiliated with a particular business

branch.

49. The method of claim 46, wherein said configuration of said request further comprises identification of at least one of said network nodes categorized by at least one

10 of the following parameters:

at least one selected day;

at least one selected hour;

at least one selected said network node;

at least one missed day;

15 at least one missed hour;

at least one disconnected network node;

at least one down network node; and

at least one exception-reported network node.

50. The method of claim 46, wherein said configuration of said request further

20 comprises identification of at least one of said network nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

file type;

file type name; and

archive directory.

51. The method of claim 41, further comprising:

managing said response associated with said network node.

5 52. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node comprises a plurality of delivery system nodes.

53. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node comprises a plurality of secondary system nodes.

10 54. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node is an automated teller machine.

55. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node is a bank server.

56. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node is a communication server.

57. The method of claim 41, wherein said network node is a financial server.

15 58. The method of claim 41, wherein said network nodes comprise a financial institution's network nodes.

59. The method of claim 41, further comprising:

providing a help mechanism to a user.

60. A system for selecting, prioritizing, retrieving, storing, and managing data within network nodes, comprising:

20 means for configuring a request from a user to a network node;

means for transmitting said request to said network node;

means for processing said request associated with said network node;

means for transmitting a response from said network node to said request;  
means for processing said response from said network node to said request;

and

means for storing said response from said network node to said request.

5    61.    The system of claim 60, further comprising:

means for constructing a response log;  
means for administering said response log; and  
means for printing said response log.

62.    The system of claim 60, further comprising:

10       means for prioritizing said request associated with said network node; and  
      means for prioritizing said response from said network node to said request.

63.    The system of claim 60, further comprising:

means for constructing an automated retrieval schedule; and  
means for executing said automated retrieval schedule.

15    64.    The system of claim 63, wherein said automated retrieval schedule comprises at  
least one of the following parameters:

an upload frequency;  
an upload schedule; and  
a destination directory.

20    65.    The system of claim 60, wherein said configuration of said request comprises at  
least one of the following parameters:

minimum time to retry if retrieval failure; and

maximum number of simultaneous retrievals.

66. The system of claim 65, wherein said configuration of said request further comprises node filtering.

67. The system of claim 66, wherein said node filtering further comprises at least one  
5 of the following parameters:

one or more of said network nodes designated by a user;

one or more of said network nodes affiliated with a particular business; and

one or more of said network nodes affiliated with a particular business  
branch.

10 68. The system of claim 65, wherein said configuration of said request further comprises identification of at least one of said network nodes categorized by at least one of the following parameters:

at least one selected day;

at least one selected hour;

15 at least one selected said network node;

at least one missed day;

at least one missed hour;

at least one disconnected network node;

at least one down network node; and

20 at least one exception-reported network node.

69. The system of claim 65, wherein said configuration of said request further comprises identification of at least one of said network nodes categorized by at least one

of the following parameters:

file type;

file type name; and

archive directory.

5    70.    The system of claim 60, further comprising:

means for managing said response associated with said network node.

71.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node comprises a plurality of  
delivery system nodes.

72.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node comprises a plurality of  
10    secondary system nodes.

73.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node is an automated teller  
machine.

74.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node is a bank server.

75.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node is a communication server.

15    76.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network node is a financial server.

77.    The system of claim 60, wherein said network nodes comprise a financial  
institution's network nodes.

78.    The system of claim 60, further comprising:

means for providing a help mechanism to a user.

20    79.    A platform-independent system for retrieving and managing data in at least one  
communications network having a plurality of destination nodes interconnected with  
communication lines, comprising:

a network automated information retrieval system coupled to at least one communications network having a plurality of nodes;

an interactive user module coupled with a network management system server connected to said communications network having a plurality of nodes;

5 a plurality of client terminals coupled to said interactive user module for user interaction with said network automated information retrieval system.

80. The system of claim 79, wherein said interactive user module is communicated by a service application of said automated information retrieval system to said network management system server.

10 81. The system of claim 79, wherein said interactive user module is communicated by said service application of said automated information retrieval system to one of a internet, an intranet, or an extranet.

82. The system of claim 79, wherein said communications network further comprises memory.

15 83. The system of claim 79, wherein said communications network further comprises at least one database stored in memory.

84. The system of claim 79, wherein said communications network further comprises at least one database processor capable of processing data contained in said database.

85. The system of claim 79, further comprising a request to said automated  
20 information retrieval system.

86. The system of claim 85, wherein said request is communicated to said automated information retrieval system by said user interaction with said interactive user module.

87. The system of claim 86, wherein said interactive user module comprises at least one of the following user modules selected from a group of user modules comprising:

an administrator module;

an operator module;

5                   a help module; and

a status module.

88. The system of claim 85, wherein said request further comprises a retrieval command to query at least one destination node in real-time.

89. The system of claim 79, further comprising:

10                   means for said plurality of network nodes to transmit a response to said request.

means for processing said response from said plurality of network nodes to said request; and

means for storing said response from said plurality of network nodes to said request.

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90. The system of claim 89, further comprising:

means for constructing a response log, wherein said response log comprises a plurality of responses from said plurality of network nodes to said request;

means for administering said response log; and

20                   means for printing said response log.